

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A sensor system with variable sensor-signal processing, comprising:
- 2 a sensor unit and an analytical unit;
- 3 - the sensor unit comprises a sensor element to detect a measurement variable (M) and to
- 4 generate a sensor signal (U(M)) to represent the measurement variable (M), and a sensor-signal
- 5 processing unit to process a sensor signal (U(M)), which represents the measurement variable
- 6 (M), in accordance with prescribed parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m, c_{m+1} \dots c_M$), such that the parameters
- 7 ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m, c_{m+1} \dots c_M$) for processing the sensor signal can be adjusted externally;
- 8 - the sensor element has at least one input to which the measurement variable (M) can be
- 9 conducted, and at least one output, from which the sensor signal (U(M)), representing the
- 10 measurement variable (M), can be tapped;
- 11 - the sensor-signal processing unit has at least one input and at least one output ($A; A_1,$
- 12 $A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$);
- 13 - at least one input of the sensor-signal processing unit is connected to at least one output
- 14 of the sensor element;
- 15 - at least one output (A) of the sensor-signal processing unit is assigned to output the
- 16 sensor signal (Out), which has been processed in the sensor-signal processing unit;
- 17 - at least one output ($A, A_1, A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$) of the sensor-
- 18 signal processing unit is connected to the analytical unit, through a corresponding connecting
- 19 line ($A_1, A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$);
- 20 - the analytical unit functions to analyze output signals (Out) which are transmitted from

21 the sensor-signal processing unit, wherein

22 - the analytical unit further functions to redefine at least one parameter ($c_1, c_2, c_3, c_m,$

23 $c_{m+1} \dots c_M; A_1, A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$) for signal processing, on the basis

24 of output signals (Out) delivered by the sensor-signal processing unit;

25 - there is at least one connecting line or a wireless connection path between the sensor-

26 signal processing unit and the analytical unit, to transmit at least one of the newly defined

27 parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3, c_m, c_{m+1} \dots c_M; A_1, A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$) to the

28 sensor-signal processing unit, to modify the processing of the sensor signals

29 - the sensor-signal processing unit functions to set the transmitted parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3, c_m,$

30 $c_{m+1} \dots c_M; A_1, A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$).

2. The sensor system of claim 1, characterized in that a connecting line for transmitting the redefined parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m, c_{m+1} \dots c_M; A_1, A_2 \dots A_k, A_{k+1} \dots A_K; D_1, D_2 \dots D_n, D_{n+1} \dots D_{N-1}, D_N$) is that connecting line (A) which is connected to the output (A) which outputs the processed sensor signal.

3. The sensor system of claim 2, characterized in that a connecting line which transmits the determined parameters is a common power supply line (V) for the sensor unit and the analytical unit.

4. The sensor system of claim 3, characterized in that a necessary change of a parameter ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$) for signal processing can be determined during running operation, and that at least one of the newly determined parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$) can be transmitted during running operation.

1 5. The sensor system of claim 4, characterized in that a filtering device is present, which
2 allows the determined parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$) to be transmitted only if this will not
3 disturb signal transmission from the sensor unit.

1 6. The sensor system of claim 5, characterized in that at least one parameter ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$)
2 can be transmitted by the change of an output load (I_{load}) between the sensor-signal processing unit
3 and the analytical unit.

1 7. The sensor system of claim 6, characterized in that the output load (I_{load}) is continuously
2 variable.

1 8. The sensor system of claim 7, characterized in that the output load (I_{load}) is stepwise variable.

1 9. The sensor system of claim 8, characterized in that at least on parameter ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$)
2 can be transmitted by changing a supply voltage (U_s) for the sensor unit.

1 10. A method for changing the signal processing in a sensor system, with the following
2 features:

3 - a measurement variable (M) is detected in a sensor element, which is part of a sensor unit,
4 and a sensor signal ($U(M)$) is generated, which represents the measurement variable (M);

5 - the sensor signal ($U(M)$) is processed in a sensor-signal processing unit, which likewise is
6 part of the sensor unit, in accordance with prescribed parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$), such that
7 the parameters ($c_1, c_2, c_3 \dots c_m \dots c_M$) can be adjusted externally;

8 - at least one signal (Out) processed in the sensor processing unit is analyzed in an
9 analytical unit;

10 characterized in that